

# PRESS RELEASE

September 21, 2006

## **HILTON MAN RECEIVES 17 AND HALF YEAR SENTENCE FOR RECEIVING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

**RE: UNITED STATES v. SHAWN E. SEIFERT**

Terrance P. Flynn, the United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, announced today that Shawn E. Seifert, age 39, Hilton, New York, was sentenced by the Honorable Charles J. Siragusa, United States District Court Judge to 17 ½ years in prison in connection with his guilty plea on June 21, 2006, to receiving child pornography, which carries a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years imprisonment and a maximum of 20 years imprisonment, and a \$250,000 fine.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard A. Resnick, who handled the case, stated that between January 13, 2006 and January 18, 2006, the defendant possessed more than 600 images of child pornography on a computer he owned. He had received these images over the internet. Some of the child pornography images depicted prepubescent minors or minors under twelve years old. Some of the child pornography images portrayed sadistic or masochistic conduct or other depictions of violence.

On January 17, 2006, a technical support representative from Frontier Communications Company had received a telephone call from Seifert requesting

assistance to fix his computer. While attempting to fix the computer, the representative observed an image of child pornography. Frontier then contacted law enforcement and a subsequent search of Seifert's computer determined that Seifert possessed many images of child pornography. Seifert was then interviewed and he admitted that he had been trading child pornography with other people over the internet.

The conviction in this case was the culmination of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, under the direction of Laurie J. Bennett, Special Agent in Charge.